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February 10,2000

Wendy R.Dixon Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Uffice U.S. Department of Energy P.D Box 30307, Mail Stop 010 North Las Vegas, Nevada 89036-0307

re: For the Record in the Public Comments to the Environmental Impact Statement concerning a nuclear repository at Yucca Mtn.

Dear Ms Dixon;

There have been many comments to this draft. I will only add three of the most troublesome impacts as I see it now.

1. Those who made the study seem to have little 1... understanding of the road systems which are proposed. We are one of the most traveled to parts of the U.S. with Death Valley National Fark at our doorstep, Las Vegas just the other side and heavily trafficked tourist routes to the Sierra Nevadas, to Zion, Bryce, Yosemite and the Grand Canyon National Parks within a few hours drive. Our roads are narrow, 2 lane, weaving in and out of mountain passes and through small villages. Our tourists are often "snow birds", retired people, pulling their vacation trailers, driving their large r.v.s and foreigners in rented cars not accustomed to the local driving rules, signs and road conditions. Many crosses dot the sides of roads; those who took turns too fast or drove into the soft shoulders and overturned.

From nearby Las Vegas come many seeking the quiet and space of the desert, to hike, ride in the Dunes etc.

We also have at present large semis carrying toxic and low level nuclear wastes to Beatty's U.S. Ecology and to the Nevada Test Site. It's an accident waiting to happen. We hold our breath and are desperately working on controlling this present situation, working on bringing our emergency crews up to a level of training and equipment to handle very possible emergencies.

I suggest it would be folly and grossly irresponsible to use the routes proposed for transporting nuclear wastes to

1 cont. Yucca Mountain.

3

2. According to the reports I have heard and read, the draft suggests possible levels of radiation after a period of time. Contamination which will eventually reach our water table who's source is beneath the Yucca Mountain. I would suggest again it is irresponsible to leave our habitat to future generations with such omnious predictions,

3. OUr present economic vitality based largely on tourism and on being a place in nature for city populations will suffer even now should our roads and water present potential hazards to life as we know it.

Thank you for your attention. May we arrive at more responsible alternatives.

Singerely,

J**ah**n Ruc∖puoi

Box 51, Tecopa CA 92389